

Message Text

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PAGE 01 BERLIN 00703 250842 Z

14

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 CCO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 DOTE-00 EB-11

H-02 INR-10 IO-12 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 NSCE-00 M-03

OC-06 NEA-10 PRS-01 RSC-01 SS-15 USIE-00 USSS-00

SY-10 FAA-00 PM-09 RSR-01 /130 W

----- 025736

R 241700 Z APR 73

FM USMISSION BERLIN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1714

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

CINCEUR FOR POLAD AND OPS

CINCUSAREUR FOR POLAD, OPS AND AEAGG- OCO

CINCUSAFE FOR POLAD AND OPS

USELMLO

UNCLAS BERLIN 0703

E. O. 11652: N/ A

TAGS: PGOV, PINS, ETRN, WB, UR

SUBJECT: PLANNED ATTEMPT TO FREE HESS BY HIJACKING AIRCRAFT

REF: BERLIN 0688

1. AS HAS BEEN WIDELY REPORTED IN PRESS, GERMAN POLICE IN SIGMARINGEN ARRESTED A 30- YEAR OLD AGRICULTURAL WORKER, CARL WOLFGANG HOLZAPFEL IN CONNECTION WITH PLOT REPORTED REFTEL AND CHARGED HIM WITH CRIMINAL CONSPIRACY. ACCORDING TO WRITTEN STATEMENT WHICH HOLZAPFEL HAD IN HIS POSSESSION AT TIME OF ARREST AND WHICH HE APPARENTLY INTENDED TO MAIL TO AP STUTTGART OFFICE, GROUP OF NINE MEN AND ONE WOMAN PLANNED TO TAKE OVER BEA AIRCRAFT IN FLIGHT FROM SOUTH- GERMAN AIRPORT AND PROCEED TO MOSCOW (REFUELING IN WARSAW),
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PAGE 02 BERLIN 00703 250842 Z

WHERE THEY WOULD THREATEN TO BLOW UP AIRCRAFT, UNLESS SOVIETS AGREED TO RELEASE HESS. ACCORDING TO STATEMENT, GROUP HAD 18 KILOGRAMS OF HIGH EXPLOSIVES CAUSING HOLZAPFEL TO DECIDE TO WITHDRAW FROM PLOT WHEN HE REALIZED THAT HIS CO- CONSPIRATORS WERE PREPARED ACTUALLY TO USE THE EXPLOSIVES RATHER THAN MERELY THREATEN THEIR USE; HE ARGUED THAT A " HUMANITARIAN EFFORT" COULD NOT SUCCEED THROUGH " BLOODBATH." HOLZAPFEL DID NOT REVEAL TO POLICE NAMES OF CO- CONSPIRATORS OR LOCATION OF EXPLOSIVE.

2. ACCORDING TO POLICE, HOLZAPFEL, WHOSE FIRST RESIDENCE IS IN WEST BERLIN, ONCE CONDUCTED HUNGER STRIKE IN FRONT OF WALL AND SERVED TWO YEARS OF EIGHT- YEAR SENTENCE IN GDR FOR HAVING CONDUCTED DEMONSTRATION IN EAST BERLIN CALLING FOR RELEASE OF POLITICAL PRISONERS.

3. USCOB CONCURS. KLEIN

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NMAFVVZCZ

*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a

*** Current Classification *** UNCLASSIFIED

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Disposition Event:
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30 JUN 2005

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SECSTATE WASHDC INFO BONN
LONDON
MOSCOW
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